

REMARKS

The Examiner is requiring election in the above-identified application of a single distinct species selected from:

- A: Butyl or halobutyl used in the auxiliary layer;
- B: Diene-based elastomer used in the auxiliary layer; or
- C: Thermoplastic urethane-based elastomer used in the auxiliary layer.

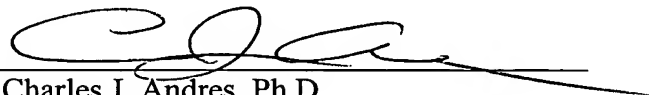
Applicants have provisionally elected the species: A: butyl or halobutyl used in the auxiliary layer. Claims 1-10 and 13-18 read on the elected species.

With respect to the elected species, Applicants respectfully submit that, should the elected species be found allowable, the Office should expand its search to the non-elected species.

Applicants submit this application is now in condition for examination on the merits and early notification of such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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